

# The Pacific Commercial Advertiser

ESTABLISHED JULY 2, 1856.

VOL. LII, NO. 8853.

HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1910.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SIDESTEPS FULL CONTROL OF HAWAII LEGISLATURE

### Original Resolution Is Amended to Make It Specific.

The chamber of commerce held a meeting yesterday afternoon which dealt with principles of vital interest to this Territory.

The principle involved was whether or not laws should be passed by congress affecting vital interests in Hawaii without the people of Hawaii having an opportunity to first know what they are and to discuss the same. The chamber put itself unanimously on record as opposing any such action by congress and in favor of full local publicity of all measures presented to congress before the same is acted upon by the national legislature.

The text of the discussion was the two so-called "McCroscon" bills, recently introduced, the one known as the "Kau Ditch Bill," and the other the "Wahiawa Bill."

The "Kau" bill is really a general bill applying to all of the public waters in the Territory and all the land capable of being irrigated by the same, and provides a wholesale amendment to our entire land system and laws and otherwise virtually amends the Organic Act.

#### Simply a "Grab."

The "Wahiawa" bill is simply a bill which proposes to take certain water away from the people who are now using it and make a present of it to certain other people. In other words, it is a "grab," pure and simple, without any rhyme, reason or justice to commend it.

The original resolutions introduced in the chamber yesterday, provided that the chamber of commerce should go on record as against action being taken by congress until the same had been submitted to the local legislature. The majority of the members, while opposing the two specific bills above named, thought this was going too far, and adopted the principle of crossing bridges when you come to them, in objecting to the two McCroscon bills. The meeting was addressed by Delegate Kahio, E. D. Tenney, W. R. Castle, A. Lewis, Jr., S. M. Ballou, J. R. Galt and L. A. Thurston.

President Morgan introduced the subject by presenting resolutions which were recommended by the trustees of the chamber for adoption by the members, as follows:

#### Special Resolution.

Resolved, That the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce deprecates the practice of presenting to congress bills relating to local affairs in Hawaii without opportunity first being afforded for full public discussion of such measures in this Territory.

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States be and is hereby respectfully petitioned not to pass private bills conferring privileges in Hawaii, or public bills under which private interests may acquire vested rights, and especially not to pass any act amending or affecting the Organic Act of this Territory, unless the proposed legislation has been first submitted to the legislature of the Territory.

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the secretary of the interior, to the presiding officer and the chairman of the committee on territories of the senate and of the house of representatives, and to our delegate to congress.

The adoption of the resolutions was moved by E. D. Tenney, seconded by J. R. Galt.

#### Castle Opposed.

W. R. Castle stated that he was in favor of the spirit of the resolution, but he doubted the soundness of the second portion of the resolution, which limited action before congress until the local legislature had passed upon any particular subject.

He thought it wiser to meet specific questions as they arose, and not commit ourselves beforehand concerning unknown conditions. He thought it would be sound to pass resolutions directed specifically to the two bills now before congress which was objected to, but not to commit ourselves concerning other matters which might arise in the future.

#### Thurston Offers Amendment.

L. A. Thurston stated that while the resolutions made no specific reference to any bill, the members all knew that the text of the resolutions was the so-called Kau ditch and Wahiawa bills now before congress. The speaker had never had any business relations with Mr. McCroscon, and regretted exceedingly being drawn into a position of opposition to anything that McCroscon might be attempting to do, as the latter was a man who "did things," and

there were none too many of them in the Territory.

He believed McCroscon to be a hard-working, straightforward man, who by his tireless industry and pertinacity had carried to a successful issue the two Kohala and the two Hamakua ditches; and when Mr. McCroscon announced that he was going to undertake the carrying of the surplus waters of Hilo to the arid district of Kau, the speaker was strongly in favor of the proposition, and had told McCroscon that he would do all he could to help him, believing it to be in the interests of the general public, and more particularly the island of Hawaii and that portion where the speaker was more particularly interested, to have the millions of gallons of water now going to waste make fertile fields of what was now practically a desert.

Mr. Thurston regretted that Mr. McCroscon had not stuck to his original proposition, to secure a franchise specifically for the Kau ditch, but had broadened it into a general irrigation and land law which contained provisions which no independent minded citizen could stand for.

#### The Wahiawa Bill.

As to the Wahiawa bill, the speaker has not seen the text, but understood it to be to the effect that congress should take the Wahiawa waters away from the people who had developed a water system there at the cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and without consideration, make a present of them to certain other people.

Without knowing the details or the reasons behind this bill, it raised the gorge of the speaker, as he believed it had other members of the community; for if this could be done in one case nobody knew who might be next.

The speaker felt the chamber of commerce should put itself on record specifically against these two bills.

Mr. Thurston agreed with W. R. Castle, however, that it was unsound for the chamber of commerce to commit itself beforehand to the principle that it disapproved of action being taken by congress concerning Hawaiian affairs except after the subject had been considered by the local legislature.

He did not know what kind of a legislature or Governor we might have, and congress might be our court of last appeal against disastrous conditions. He thought the way ought to be left open to anyone to go to congress in case of necessity, whether the legislature liked it or not.

No action should be asked of congress without the fullest publicity and opportunity for discussion in Hawaii, but the speaker saw no object in tying our hands beforehand, to await action by the legislature, which might delay action for two years.

The adoption of the principle would not bind others who might want to secure legislation in congress, but would put us in the position of stultifying ourselves if some occasion arose in the future requiring early action by congress.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## LEFT UP IN THE AIR ABOUT HAWAII BILLS

### Officers of Chamber of Commerce Criticize Representative in Washington.

Criticism was made yesterday of George McK. McClellan, secretary to Delegate Kalanianoʻe, and also the representative in Washington of the chamber of commerce and of the merchants' association, in that he had failed to notify either organization of the introduction of the two McCroscon bills, or their intended introduction, thereby causing local interests more than usual concern, because one bill, at least, menaces the life of one of the island water companies.

The open suggestion of criticism was made by J. R. Galt, when he said that what the chamber and the merchants' association needed in Washington was a representative who could be relied upon to notify the organizations of anything relating to Hawaii, and notify immediately upon receiving any knowledge of the same, so that after its receipt here the public could also be notified and an expression of opinion obtained as to the merits of proposed measures before congress takes any action toward them.

After the meeting of the chamber of commerce Mr. Galt and President Morgan held a confab over the Washington representation, stating that the chamber of commerce paid him so much salary per month and the merchants paid a like sum, just to be kept informed of measures affecting Hawaiian affairs. Mr. Morgan stated that he had asked Mr. McClellan to notify him or the chamber immediately upon obtaining any knowledge of any matter which was to be brought before congress and cable it to Honolulu. No matter what the question was, the two Honolulu organizations should be notified.

It was plain that there was some dissatisfaction with the way in which the two McCroscon bills had been allowed to slip into congress without the local bodies being notified.

#### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

Resolved, That the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce deprecates the practice of presenting to congress bills relating to local affairs in Hawaii without opportunity first being afforded for full public discussion of such measures in this Territory.

Resolved, That whereas there are now pending before congress two bills relating to irrigation and the disposition of public lands and water rights in the Territory of Hawaii, the specific titles of which bills are not now available, which bills vitally affect the public interests of Hawaii, and which have not been subject to local consideration or discussion; therefore, congress is respectfully requested to not pass said bills.

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the secretary of the interior, to the presiding officer and the chairman of the committee on territories of the senate and of the house of representatives, and to our Delegate to Congress.

## WILL GIVE AWAY HALF TON OF CANDY CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL PARK

### Malihini Fund Buys Presents by the Dray Load for Two Thousand. Will Make a Federal Play- ground of Kilauea.

Yesterday the gifts to be distributed from the Malihini Christmas Tree began to be delivered at the capitol, the superintendent of public works having been taken at his word by the committee and the senate chamber taken possession of as a storeroom. It takes a good sized room to hold the boxes and bundles of stuff intended for the tree, which this year will cater to the wants of over two thousand children. The thousand dolls alone, each one in a box by itself, makes a pile a good many feet high, while other things by the five hundred and the thousand take up space.

The purchasing list of the committee shows, in addition to the thousand doll babies, a thousand fancy handkerchiefs, a thousand bottles of perfume, two thousand oranges, two thousand bananas, five hundred mouth organs, several hundred fancy masks, a thousand jackknives, five hundred boy's caps, marbles, drums, tops, books and miscellaneous presents in hundreds and hundreds, to say nothing of over half a ton of candy.

It has not been found an easy task to buy for two thousand children, but the committee has made the money go as far as was possible, being generously treated by the various merchants dealt with in the way of rebates and big cuts, while the general whole has been helped out wonderfully by donations of fruit and toys.

To date the committee has incurred an expense of a trifle short of a thousand dollars, which leaves over a hundred dollars yet to be collected to make ends meet. That this will come in, is certain, and the committee believes it is taking no chances on exceeding the money on hand. As a matter of fact, the number of children declared by those in a position to know as deserving of a share of the public gift giving is somewhat appalling. Yesterday the total of tickets given out for distribution was one thousand, nine hundred and fifty, and there were urgent calls (Continued on Page Five.)

## JAPANESE EXHIBIT IS LATEST SCHEME

### Officers Elected and Banquet Is Held. During Which Plan Is Discussed.

The Japanese Merchants' Association held its annual meeting yesterday when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, W. Moto-shige; vice president, M. Kawahara; treasurer, S. Kojima; secretary, Y. Takakawa. Board of directors, S. Osaki, T. Nagao, T. Sumida, T. Oda, Y. Ishii, T. Iwanaga.

At the meeting the plan to hold an exhibition of Japanese wares and merchandise was discussed. The exhibition will be held in the first story of the Japanese consulate building, and it will be opened shortly with all samples from Japan. It is expected that the Japanese government will assist the exhibition.

The Japanese will endeavor to attract the attention of tourists to the exhibition. The local Japanese believe that it will promote business between Japan and the United States mainland, as well as stimulate trade relations between Hawaii and Japan.

Following the election of officers, it was announced that a dinner would be given last evening, and it was held at the Sunchi club, where an elaborate spread was furnished. President Moto-shige is the well known King street druggist; Mr. Kawahara is a wholesale merchant; Mr. Kojima is engaged in the wholesale liquor business, and Mr. Takakawa is a wholesaler.

#### ANOTHER RECORD.

PAU, France, December 21.—Legation made another remarkable record in his aeroplane today. He flew 328.4 miles in six hours and one minute, breaking all records, in the competition for the Michelin cup.

## COMMISSIONER IS MUCH IMPRESSED ADOPTS POLICY OF STRONG NAVY

### Question of Labor Subject of Mild Comment—Labor Union's Report.

Commissioner-General of Immigration Keefe and Mrs. Keefe started for a special rush trip to the Island of Kauai last evening on the steamer Claudine, and upon their return tomorrow will start for the mainland on the Mongolia. The commissioner returned from his tour of inspection to the Island of Hawaii yesterday morning, evidently much impressed with conditions as he found them. As regards the labor problem, he was reticent, commenting only that his ideas as to the desirability of Filipinos as workmen and future citizens of the Territory have undergone no change.

Speaking of the Russians, he declared that the planters with whom he talked express satisfaction with them, except for the tendency they have to change. He thinks there was no misrepresentation made in bringing them here, but simply some misunderstanding.

#### Keefe in Hilo.

(Mail Special to The Advertiser.)

HILO, December 19.—At the conclusion of the meeting held here last week between the Hilo Labor Union's members and Immigration Commissioner D. F. Keefe, the latter asked that a statement be presented to him in writing for his information, embodying matters to which he might reply in writing. This has been done, and the following is a (Continued on Page Four.)

## MEEK AND LOWLY ACCEPTS REBUFF

### Judge Cooper Lays Down Law to Cathcart and the City Attorney Obeys.

"Court orders that in all criminal cases now pending before the circuit court, first circuit, first judge presiding, the city and county attorney or his deputies shall appear and prosecute the same as called and set for trial. "The city and county attorney being present in court, manifested his willingness to abide by the order of the court, and would be ready to try cases set."

The above extract from the minute book of Judge Cooper's department of the circuit court puts an end to the recent fiasco where John W. Cathcart, city attorney, defied the attorney-general's department and refused to prosecute cases in the circuit court.

Recovering from the period during which he was "unwell" as the attorney-general put it in court, he yesterday expressed his desire to retract the statements he made before the court while he was "unwell."

About a week ago, after sending down word that he was too sick to attend the court as a witness in behalf of Edward C. Lane, charged with criminal assault, he suddenly appeared during the trial and, unable to pick up the threads of the case, he arose in court and entered a nolle prosequi, which Judge Cooper would not allow, as Cathcart had overlooked the fact that he had nothing to do with the case. Cathcart then almost literally exploded and, after shouting that he would figure in no more prosecutions in the circuit court, left the room and disappeared for another week. The attorney-general commenced to draw up impeachment papers and after Cathcart recovered sufficiently to realize what he was up against, he appeared in court yesterday and accepted the implied rebuff in a meek and lowly spirit.

## DEMANDS REFUSED, THREATENED STRIKE MAY TIE UP ROADS

CHICAGO, December 22.—In answer to the ultimatum of the Brotherhood of Engineers in their demand for an increase in wages, the railroads last night gave their final reply, stating that conditions did not warrant their granting the demand.

As the brotherhood has already voted in favor of a strike in case its demands are refused, it is believed that a tieup, more or less stringent, is imminent on sixty-one railroads, running out of or with connections in Chicago, within twenty-four hours.

#### REBELS IN FORCE.

CHIHUAHUA, December 21.—General Navarro's force is said to be surrounded by rebels and in danger of being forced to surrender.

## China Begins Negotiations for Building Great Drydock and Arsenal.

### BRITISH CAPITAL FOR WORK

### Floods and Famine Devastating Province of Anhui and Mil- lions Suffer.

PEKING, December 22.—China has adopted a policy of naval expansion which will place her on a strong basis in home waters and the eastern Pacific Ocean. The plans of the naval board authorized by the government are comprehensive and contemplate the building of battleships and cruisers of the most modern character.

Contemporaneous with the building up of a strong naval force of modern warships is a plan for establishing a powerful and well equipped naval base on a commanding point in the Yellow Sea.

The beginning of this development was started yesterday when negotiations were begun with British contractors for the construction of a great naval drydock to cost approximately 15,000,000 taels, and for a naval base and arsenal in conjunction with it.

This move upon the part of China is one way of serving notice that the stagnation in naval affairs, which has prevailed more or less since the war with Japan in 1894, has come to an end.

Reports from the Province of Anhui, received here yesterday, are startling. The floods are causing an immense amount of damage and it is estimated that fully 2,500,000 persons are suffering from famine.

## TWELVE ARE DEAD, MANY INJURED, IN DISASTROUS FIRE

PHILADELPHIA, December 22.—Twelve firemen are known to be dead and twenty firemen and fifteen policemen were buried by the falling walls of the Frierland leather factory, last night. The plant was destroyed.

When the fire was discovered three alarms were sounded and all the fire engines in that part of the city responded. Lines of hose were carried to the roof and the flames fought desperately, but the firemen were driven back, and although the order to retire was given by the chief, the walls suddenly fell outward with hardly any warning.

The police reserves had been called out to keep back the crowd which gathered, and a platoon of them were caught by the falling debris. Rescue squads were at once set to work and as fast as the rescues were made the injured were sent to the hospitals.

Although twelve dead have been recovered, it is believed that there are other bodies in the ruins.

#### RETAINS OLD BOUNDARY.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—President Taft today sent a message to congress advising a joint resolution authorizing the annulment of the portion of the constitution recently drafted for New Mexico which changes the boundaries of the State. The senate adopted the resolution.

#### HOLIDAY ADJOURNMENT.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—Congress today adjourned for the holidays, naming January 5 as the day for reconvening.

## OIL COMPANY RAIDED, OFFICERS ARRESTED

LOS ANGELES, December 22.—Secret service men, in behalf of the post-office department, yesterday raided the offices of the Cleveland Oil Company here and arrested two of the officials of the company on a charge of using the mails to defraud.

Since the boom in the oil fields and the organization of a number of stock companies, capitalized at millions, yet with little, if any, assets in sight, this city has been the headquarters for a number of stock-floating schemes. The raid yesterday, it is believed, is only the precursor of others along the same lines.